

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11185 191611Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EPA-01 COME-00 PM-05
NSF-01 INT-05 L-03 DLOS-09 SMI-01 SSO-00 /058 W
-----043488 191618Z /47

O 191605Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1943
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS NOAA FOR MARTINEAU

DEPT PASS EPA FOR SHOSTAL

GENEVA FOR US LOS DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TOCY, UR, US
SUBJECT: US REQUEST FOR SOVIET PERMISSION TO CONDUCT
MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE

REF: STATE 125279

1. REFTEL ASKS EMBASSY TO REQUEST SOVIET PERMISSION FOR
NOAA RESEARCH VESSEL "WESTERN VIKING" TO CONDUCT
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON BOWHEAD WHALES IN WATERS INSIDE
SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE. EMBOFF CONTACTED MFA OFFICIAL WHO
NOTED THAT TIME WAS SHORT AND STRONGLY INDICATED THAT
HE THOUGHT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT US WOULD RECEIVE PERMISS-
ION TO CONDUCT THE REQUESTED RESEARCH. SINCE THE
RESEARCH CONCERNS MARINE LIVING RESOURCES, MFA OFFICIAL
ADDED THAT EMBASSY WOULD HAVE TO REQUEST IN WRITING
FORMAL PERMISSION TO CONDUCT THIS RESEARCH WITHIN THE
SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE.

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2. IN VIEW OF CURRENT UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDING MRS ISSUE
AT LOS TALKS, EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE ON WHETHER TO
SEND THE WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CARRY OUT
SUBJECT RESEARCH, AT LEAST PART OF WHICH APPARENTLY WILL
BE CONDUCTED WITHIN THE 12-200 MILE ZONE OFF THE SOVIET
UNION. (WE ASSUME THERE IS NO PROBLEM IN ASKING PERMISSION

TO CONDUCT RESEARCH WITHIN THE 12 MILE LIMIT.) WE RECALL THAT LAST AUGUST EMBASSY WAS SPECIFICALLY ENJOINED NOT TO REQUEST PERMISSION, BUT SIMPLY TO INFORM THE SOVIETS THAT TWO NOAA RESEARCH VESSELS, SURVEYOR AND DISCOVERER, INTENDED TO CONDUCT RESEARCH WITHIN THE SOVIET 200 MILE ZONE - ALTHOUGH THIS RESEARCH WAS NOT PRIMARILY AIMED AT MARINE LIVING RESOURCES (UNFORTUNATELY OUR FILES ON THIS SUBJECT PERISHED DURING THE FIRE.)

3. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Draft Date: 19 may 1978
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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